

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present U.S. Patent application. Claims 1 and 11 have been amended. Claims 1-3, 6-8, and 10-14 are pending.

Claims Objections

Claim 1 is objected to due to informalities. Applicants have amended claim 1 to fix a typographical error. Therefore, Applicants submit that the objections of claim 1 have been overcome.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1, 2, and 11-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claims 1 and 11 have been amended to further define the invention. The Office Action states that the limitation of “at least in part on the associated tag” is not described in the specification. Applicants disagree. This limitation is described in the specification on page 4, lines 6-9. This paragraph on page 4 describes the tags that are included in the unformatted data for identifying each data portion and how a specific formatter is located for each data portion by using the identifying tag of that data portion. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 1, 2, and 11-14 comply with the written description requirement.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-3 were rejected as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,303,336 issued to Kageyama, et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,141,681 issued to Kyle. For at least the reasons set forth below, Applicants submit that claims 1-3 are not rendered obvious by Kageyama and Kyle.

Claim 1 recites:

providing unformatted data to said viewing entity, said data comprising one or more unformatted data portions to be converted into a format viewable to said viewer and one or more tags to identify each of the data portions;
providing, together with the unformatted data portions, a plurality of formatters for said viewer, each of which is capable of formatting one or more of said unformatted data portions into said format viewable to said viewer;
locating said formatters by said viewer for each of said unformatted data portions based at least in part on the associated identifying tag, said formatters plug-able into said viewer; and
formatting each of said unformatted data portions by said located formatters to said format viewable to said viewer.

Thus, Applicants claim use of a tag associated with each unformatted data portion to locate a formatter to be used to convert that data portion to a format viewable by the viewer.

Kageyama discloses a printing system in which terminals are connected to a print server for printing document data via a network. Kyle discloses a data transfer system that includes a first computer to generate a data package having a data portion and an instruction portion and a second computer to receive the data package and process the data portion in accordance with the instruction portion. Neither Kageyama nor Kyle discloses or suggests providing unformatted data that includes data portions with associated identifying tags that are used to locate a formatter for the data portion to convert that data portion to a format viewable by the viewer and providing a plurality of formatters plug-able into the viewer together with the unformatted data portions.

These limitations are recited in claim 1. Therefore, Applicants submit that no combination of Kageyama and Kyle renders claim 1 obvious.

Claims 2-3 are dependent claims and distinguish for at least the same reasons as their independent base claim in addition to adding further limitations of their own. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 2-3 are patentable over Kageyama and Kyle for at least the reasons set forth above.

Claims 11-14 were rejected as being unpatentable over Kageyama. For at least the reasons set forth below, Applicants submit that claims 11-14 are not rendered obvious by Kageyama.

Claim 11 recites:

conversion means for converting said unformatted data portions into a format viewable to said viewer, said conversion means being separately located from said viewer;
identifying means for identifying each of said unformatted data portions;
and
locating means for said viewer to locate, using said identifying means, said conversion means for each of said unformatted data, wherein the conversion means is selected based, at least in part, on contents of a tag associated with each unformatted data portion.

Thus, Applicants claim locating conversion means selected based on contents of a tag associated with each unformatted data portion.

As discussed above, Kageyama discloses a printing system in which terminals are connected to a print server for printing document data via a network. Kageyama does not disclose conversion means that are separately located from the viewer for converting said unformatted data portions into a format viewable to the viewer, where the conversion means are selected based on contents of a tag associated with each unformatted data portion. Therefore, Kageyama does not render claim 11 obvious.

Claims 12-14 are dependent claims and distinguish for at least the same reasons as their independent base claim in addition to adding further limitations of their own. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 12-14 are patentable over Kageyama for at least the reasons set forth above.

Claims 6-8 and 10 were rejected as being unpatentable over Kageyama in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,511,156 issued to Nagasaka. For at least the reasons set forth below, Applicants submit that claims 6-8 and 10 are not rendered obvious by Kageyama and Nagasaka.

Claim 6 recites:

- providing unformatted data to each of said viewers, said unformatted data including a plurality of unformatted data portions having associated tags indicating a type of formatting to be used;

- providing a plurality of formatters, each of which is capable of formatting one or more unformatted data portions into at least one format viewable to at least one of said viewers;

- locating by each viewer, for each unformatted data portion to be viewable to said viewer, a formatter capable of converting said each unformatted data portion to a format viewable to said viewer; and

- formatting said each unformatted data portion by said located formatter to said format viewable to said viewer.

As discussed above, Kageyama discloses a printing system in which terminals are connected to a print server for printing document data via a network. Nagasaka discloses an interpreter for rasterization processing to obtain printing picture element information. Neither Kageyama nor Nagasaka discloses providing unformatted data having associated tags and providing a plurality of formatters to convert the unformatted data to a format viewable by each of the viewers. Therefore, Applicants submit that no combination of Kageyama and Nagasaka renders claim 6 obvious.

Claims 7-8 and 10 are dependent claims and distinguish for at least the same reasons as their independent base claim in addition to adding further limitations of their own. Therefore,

Applicants submit that claims 7-8 and 10 are patentable over Kageyama and Nagasaka for at least the reasons set forth above.

Conclusion

In view of the remarks set forth above, Applicants submit that claims 1-3, 6-8, and 10-14 are in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is believed that such contact would further the examination of the present application.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account number 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN, LLP

Date: 1/25/05



Lisa Tom
Reg. No. 52,291

12400 Wilshire Boulevard, Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026
(503) 439-8778

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